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Springfield, Mass.-- City library association--
Library training class.
Miscellaneous material

The person charging this material is responsible for its return to the library from which it was withdrawn on or before the **Latest Date** stamped below.

**Theft, mutilation, and underlining of books are reasons for disciplinary action and may result in dismissal from the University.**

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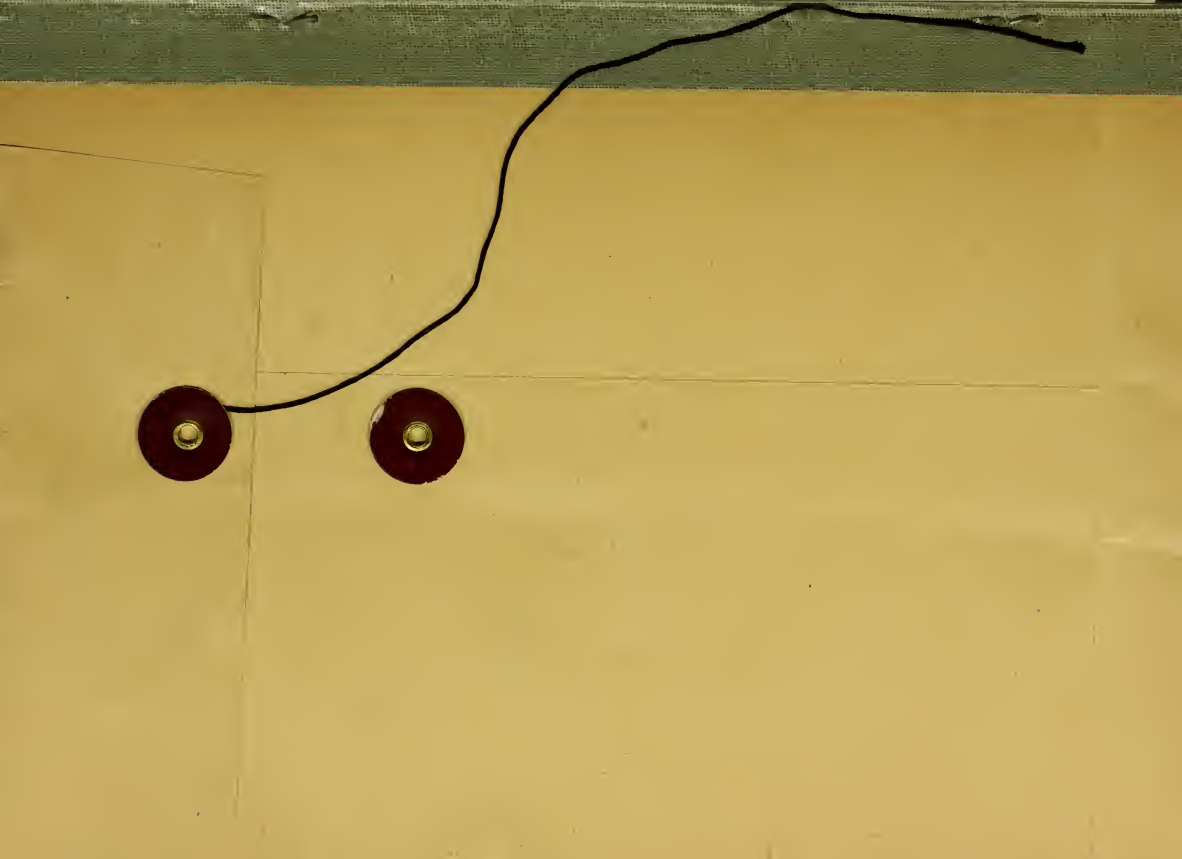

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Special Bulletin No. 7, pp. 33-36. No. 62—11—98—500.

**The City Library Association, Springfield, Massachusetts.**
**LITERATURE: ART: SCIENCE.**

# THE LIBRARY TRAINING CLASS: EXAMINATION: NOVEMBER 30: 1898.

## I.

The examination of applicants for admission to the training class of the City Library of Springfield will be held on Wednesday, the 30th of November, 1898, at 9 A. M., in the smaller lecture room of the Art Museum. The examination will be written and will last about three hours. The subjects upon which the applicants will be examined are Literature, Current Events and General Information, the object being to test one's adaptability to library work. The examination will be as far as possible impersonal. The choice of the successful candidates will be determined chiefly by the written examination. Other considerations such as health, references, and previous experience, will, however, be given due weight.

The class will be limited to six members. These six will agree, on entering, to give an average of 36 hours a week to duties in the library during the coming nine months. As these nine months will extend through the summer of 1899, there is to be deducted from this time a vacation of three weeks, between the first of May and the first of September. Of the 36 hours per week at least five hours are to be given, during the first six months, to certain prescribed private study, in the library, of books on library economy or literature.

The library, in return for the services rendered by members of the class, will see that each member becomes as familiar as the time of apprenticeship permits with library work in all its branches.

Those who intend to take the examination should notify the library of the fact a day or two beforehand, if convenient.

II.

The City Library Association includes the following departments : —

(1) A library of one hundred thousand volumes, with
  (*a*) A reference department, and
  (*b*) A circulating department, — on the second and first floors respectively of the William Rice Building.

(2) A reading-room supplied with about 300 periodicals, — on the first floor of the same building.

(3) The George Walter Vincent Smith Collection of works of art, chiefly illustrative of the industrial art of all nations, the result of a life-time of tireless devotion to the search for and purchase of suitable articles, beautifully arranged and mounted — in the Art Museum.

(4) The Horace Smith Hall of Sculpture ; about sixty carefully selected reproductions of the sculpture of Greece and the Renaissance, — to be placed during this winter in the same building.

(5) An Art Library, including several hundred finely illustrated art books, selected from the library proper, — in the same building.

(6) Two Lecture Rooms, seating 375 and 100 persons respectively, set apart by the association for promoting the use of its several departments, and available also for educational meetings of any kind, — in the same building.

(7) A Museum of Natural History, the result of several years of careful collection and selection of material, and growing rapidly, — now in the Art Museum, but soon to be installed in the new Science Building, which is to be completed within a few months.

(8) The Catherine L. Howard Library of Science, founded and to be maintained by those who were formerly pupils in the Howard School, — now being purchased and to be placed in a special room in the same building.

(9) An Archæological Room and a Class Room, — in the same building.

(10) A Collection of Portraits, thirty-five in number, of notable citizens of Springfield, most of whom have been or still are connected with the library, — in the William Rice Building and the Art Museum.

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The City Library Association, Springfield, Mass.

Library Training-class: Examination. Nov.30, 1898.

Write on one side of the paper only.

Write your number in the upper right hand corner of each sheet of your answers.

Indicate the questions by writing their number before their respective answers.

1. Age.
2. Educated where and to what extent.
3. Health.
4. References.
5. Have you had experience in library work or in teaching or any other form of employment; if so what, and how much?
6. Name five recent popular novels and state whether written by English or American authors.
7. Name the authors and titles of five books you have read recently.
8. Name six of the news papers or other periodicals which you are in the habit of reading.
9. Name two typical or well-known writers from each of the following countries:- France, Germany, Italy, Spain, Russia.
10. Mention three famous Italian and two Spanish painters, with one work of each.
11. Name three scientists, their country and for what they are noted.
12. Write 300 words on the history of Spain and America during the last few years.
13. Name five statesmen of the past 50 years.
14. Mention five notable events in the present century.
15. Name six English and six American novelists, with a work of each
16. When (approximately) did the following men live, and state briefly for what they were noted? Galileo. -- Sir Isaac Newton. -- William Wilberforce. -- Benjamin Franklin. -- Robert Fulton. -- Benjamin Disraeli. -- George Stephenson. -- John Milton. -- William Penn. -- Sir Walter Raleigh. -- Duke of Wellington.
17. Mention one work of each of the following authors: - J.L Motley. -- Charles Dudley Warner. -- John Fiske. -- Charles Darwin. -- T.B.Macaulay. -- Charles Reade. -- Victor Hugo. -- John Ruskin. -- Mrs. Oliphant. -- George Eliot. - Helen Hunt.

III.

While it is true that the compensation for library work is still low, relatively, for example, to teaching, it is also true that with the rising standard of the profession there goes a steady and deserved increase in wages. It has come to be commonly understood that properly to conduct a library or to work in one to good purpose calls for careful preparation. The position of librarian and of library assistant is steadily gaining in dignity and in popular esteem. Moreover, the openings for trained library workers at a reasonable salary are increasing in number. Many communities each year add to their educational equipment a public library. Librarianship is looked forward to by an increasing number, especially of women, as a profession offering a fair chance for remunerative positions. This fact alone would perhaps account for the large number of applications for admission which library training-classes such as this library proposes to open, have always received. There are other reasons for the popularity of the library-training-class. These are, — to mention only two — the attractiveness of the work to those who are at all interested in printed things, and the opportunity it offers for adding to one's equipment for life, — to one's general education. "Literary" study, as it is commonly understood, has little place in the library assistant's round of duties; but the acquaintance with library work which may be gained even in a few months, gives one a better knowledge of books as tools and of how to use them to good advantage, than a college course often gives.

Considerations like the above have led the Springfield City Library Association to think it entirely proper to ask of a group of young women that they give nine months of time to work in the library in return for what they will gain from it.

The Association cannot promise that it will hereafter add to its staff any members of the class. But it is quite evident that additions will be made to the working force of the library; and it is to be supposed that the new members will be taken from graduates of the training-class. A chief purpose of the training class is, in fact, to prepare persons for effective work in this library.

THE CITY LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

J. C. Dana, Librarian.

Nov. 1, 1898.

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Oct.25, 1901.

## Library Training Class for 1901-02.

The City Library will open another training class about Nov. 13th. An examination of applicants for this class will be held in the library on Wednesday the 6th of November. from 10 to 12 and from 2 to 3. This examination will be written. It will be general in its nature and designed to test the good sense and general efficiency of the applicants.

Out of all applicants four or five of those best fitted for library work will be selected. The written examination will form only a part of the basis of selection. Much weight will be laid on health, school or college education, previous experience in business or in teaching, personality, and recommendations.

Applicants will be asked to agree, if selected, to work, without pay for 10 months in the City Library of Springfield, from about Nov.13, '01 to September 13, '02, exclusive of one month's vacation to be taken between June 1, and August 31. That is, the term of service will be 11 months, with 10 months of actual work. One of the requirements will be evening service on an average of two evenings a week.

The library, on its part, agrees to give the members of the class an opportunity to familiarize themselves with the several departments of library economy so far as this can be done in a limited period. Some of the work done will be in class. The larger part of it will be practical work in the library. During the 10 months of service, there will be held at least three examinations, covering the ground already gone over. On the results of these examinations, as well as on the general fitness for work shown by members of the class during their course, will be based the selection from the class of members for the library staff with pay, if any such selections are made. The library does not agree to furnish paid employment to any of the members of its training classes. It simply says that as vacancies arise first choice, under proper conditions, will be given to those who have served an apprenticeship in the library.

The library is better equipped than ever before to give instruction in library science and to serve as a field for the study of a library in actual operation. The requirements of the library profession are more exacting every year. Every year there is an increasing demand from libraries for persons of broad general education, good sense, and an all 'round experience in Library practice.

No conditions are made as to the previous education of applicants for this training class, though the equivalent of a high school education is desirable.

Applicants should notify the library of their intention to take the examination.

The City Library.

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